

REMARKS

These remarks are filed in response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2009. Claims 1 – 24 are cancelled. New claims 25 – 39 are added to more clearly describe the inventive subject matter. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification as originally filed, for example on page 7, lines 20 – page 9, line 32.

Telephonic interview with the Examiner

Applicant's attorney, Joseph P. Quinn held a telephonic interview with Examiner V. Kanervo on July 23, 2009. Prior to the telephonic interview, Applicant's attorney emailed the attached new claims to the Examiner for discussion along with a copy of Fig. 2 of the application. Applicant's attorney reviewed the terminology of new claim 25 in view of Fig. 2 of the application so that the Examiner could more easily and expeditiously examine the new claims. Because the new claims are being filed along with an RCE and will require additional examination, no agreement could be made regarding the allowability of the claims. Applicant's attorney agreed that the original claims would be cancelled so that examination of the new claims could proceed expeditiously.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 12-15 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Bose (US Patent No. 6271863) in view of Heckman (U.S. Patent No. 5875431). Claims 5, 9-11, 16 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Bose in view of Heckman and further in view of Groat (U.S. Publication No. 2001/0009003).

Applicant submits that the rejections of claims 1 – 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 are moot in view of the current amendment which cancels claims 1 – 22 and adds new claims 24 – 39. Applicant further submits that no combination of Bose, Heckman and/or Groat teaches or suggest each element of any of the new claims. Consideration of new claims 24 – 39 is respectfully requested.


CONCLUSION

If any points remain an issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any concerns in furtherance of the prosecution of the present application.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-2896.

Respectfully submitted,

7/31/2009
Dated: _____



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